

A MILLION WOMEN AROUSED

SUFFRAGETTES HAVE GAINED MUCH, MRS. SNOWDEN THINKS.

Results of the Suffrage Campaign in England—Lives May Yet Be Sacrificed—Apathy of Women the Greatest Obstacle to the Success of the Cause.

"If a policeman in London sees three girls come out of a tea room arm in arm," says Mrs. Philip Snowden laughingly, "he immediately whistles for reinforcement."

She is discussing in Dr. Aked's library the situation in England with regard to the woman suffrage movement. Then the laughter dies out, she moves further along until she gets to the extreme edge of the cavernous sofa and clasps her delicate hands on her knees, while a very serious expression follows the smile.

"I expect that I am returning to more strenuous times than I left a few months ago when I came over here to deliver lectures on the cause," she continues. "There are approximately 1,000,000 women work-

a sacrifice forgotten in the exultation of achievement.

"Our women are roused to a white heat of indignation by the insults and antagonisms they have roused. More or less humorous accounts have been written of the memorable occasion when the woman behind the grille at the gallery of the House of Commons interrupted the decorous proceedings. For the first time the pillars of English conservatism that had trembled a bit hitherto actually rocked."

"You, here, without that tremendous substructure of tradition can hardly appreciate that moment. It was a history making time. I have not seen, however, in the American press the final word that precipitated the panic."

"It was a very mild word in comparison with some that have been spoken. The speaker of the moment merely announced that 'he thought he knew enough about women; he'd buried two wives.'"

"A young and popular member of the House, a Liberal member, remarked to me that he had absolutely no sympathy with the cause and that he believed he represented the intelligent men of the country."



MRS. PHILIP SNOWDEN.

more honored in the breach than in the observance.

"My wife wrote him after his flagrant talks against woman suffrage that for years she had followed him, she had honored and loved him for his work in regard to peace and other vital issues, but that now she was ashamed ever to have uttered a word in his praise. Personally I should be glad to know that Cremer was either drunk or out of his mind."

Dr. Aked is asked, while Mrs. Snowden arranges some correspondence, why the men in Great Britain should balance the indifference of the men in America on the subject with such fierce antagonism. He replies:

"Hereditarily dies hard. There was a time in the history of England when a man could put a halter about the neck of his wife and take her to the market place, and if he succeeded in selling her that constituted a legal divorce."

"The reversion to type is easy, and it is difficult for him to eradicate the notion that woman is his property. The brute wants to dominate woman and the gentleman wants to protect her, and woman ought to be in a position where she cannot be dominated and does not need protection."

Mrs. Snowden looks up. "Of course," she says, "prejudice is keener over there and tradition sinks its roots into a deeper soil, but even in Great Britain I believe that the fine, intelligent man of to-day who opposes us does so from a sense of chivalry."

"I was asked a little while ago when I made that assertion, 'Toward which sex?' and said that I believed it was chivalry toward ours. While his sense of the ownership of women is just as strenuous as that of his brute brother, it is a sense that brings to him only an idea of responsibility and a desire to protect and care for them."

"And your husband, Mr. Philip Snowden—what is his attitude?"

Mrs. Snowden glances proudly toward the mantelpiece, then, rising, takes a framed photograph and shows it while she explains the rather harassed look of the picture.

"He kills himself with work, but," very girlishly, "isn't it a fine face?"

"Certainly is, a thin, eager face, with broad brow and illuminating eyes, the face of the militant student. Mrs. Snowden looks toward Dr. Aked to furnish the footnote to the illustration, which he does with great enthusiasm.

"Philip Snowden is one of the finest men I have ever known or ever expect to know," he says. "He is a Member of Parliament, the prophet of the labor movement, and there isn't a town in Great Britain where he hasn't an enormous loyal following."

"He is known as the great protagonist of the labor following and is an accepted authority on all important economic and social questions. If there is ever a Socialist Cabinet formed, which is not at all an unlikely situation, Philip Snowden would undoubtedly be selected as Chancellor of the Exchequer."

It is recalled that at suffrage head-

quarters one of the officials had said that Mrs. Philip Snowden was not the type that spoke from the tail of a coat or went to jail for the cause. With this in mind it is asked if Mrs. Snowden would be willing that his wife should be imprisoned as Miss Pankhurst and scores of other women have been, and Dr. Aked follows her "Oh, perfectly willing," by asserting his belief that the English Government would hesitate to arrest and imprison the wife of Philip Snowden, even though her picture does adorn Scotland Yard in company with many photographs of the militant members of her organization.

If the portrait does justice to the original it shows a very pretty woman of 27, of blond coloring and dainty gowning, as far removed from the fashion plate and shop model fashion as it is from freakiness. Mrs. Snowden's appearance is a refutation of the belief that to be allied with this question of the hour one must have been born without any physical attractions or must have lost them.

put his back against the door and said: 'Gentlemen, we are divided into units now, but when I open the door there will be only one. There must be only one mind, and that one mind formed, then the next move will be for the Ministers to present a bill for woman suffrage to Parliament, and as the members have the support of the Government, on the Ministers really rests the onus of this affair. It is not a question of a majority but of unanimity, you see?'

"It is really, then, a case of feminine nagging brought to the nth power?"

Dr. Aked laughs himself into the conversation. "The woman suffrage campaign in England has done more than overthrow the accepted beliefs in regard to the ownership of women; it has attacked some of our cherished blunders, one of which is that woman is the superior nagger."

"Why, she doesn't know anything about it, she is a tyro, a novice, a beginner with everything to learn! We have all known for a long time that when it came to gossiping woman cannot hold a candle to man, whose gossip is of so much more malicious and constant a character as to handicap women at the start so that they are practically out of the contest. The masculine nagger, as he has shown himself in his true colors in this campaign, has established a record that women must acknowledge, whether they want to or not, as being practically invincible, if not unassailable."

"Some of our most earnest workers are Americans—the Duchess of Marlborough, Mrs. Russell, who will be Countess Russell some day, Miss Elizabeth Robin, the author and actress."

"Your interest of course should be wider and deeper, for I agree with Dr. Aked, whose study of the questions over here has of course been of longer duration than my own, that there is no hope of breaking down the political machine and bringing in an era of purer politics until women help. The mere fact that the political grafter, the saloon keeper, the roué are the most bitterly opposed to woman suffrage of any class of men proves its need."

"I believe the hardest thing you will have to fight and in fact are already fighting is not the opposition of the anti, which seems to me rather a weak and inefficient opposition, but the apathy of the contented women, the women who are happy because they are well fed and well clothed. This apathy must be aroused, and I know no better way to do it than to seek to interest these women with narrow horizons and well fed opinions in some vital question of the day which may be far removed from the question of universal suffrage."

"Hundreds of letters come to me from our amateurish and imperfect way," continues Mrs. Snowden, "over there until we force the Ministers to that act which is practically our victory."

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"I find that the Western women are more active in their partisanship than the Eastern women, who are inclined to be content with what has been accomplished already. I lectured five times at Chautauqua this summer to large and impressive audiences. The first two lectures were received, as is the custom here, in silence—the applause objected to the end. The third lecture was interrupted frequently, and I think I am right in arguing that I had stimulated interest into excitement."

"I represent the organization founded after John Stuart Mill introduced the first woman suffrage bill. It is called the National Union of the Women's Suffrage Association and has approximately 100,000 members."

"We have many noted women among its members and in that memorable procession of last summer, just before I came to the United States, I had the honor of walking in the first row between Lady Frances Balfour and Mrs. Fawcett, the widow of the blind Postmaster-General. Another interesting participant was one of the pioneers, Miss Emily Davis, who founded Giron, the first woman's college. She is now 80 years old, but insisted on walking and kept in as long as she could—three miles in a hot sun."

"The procession wound along through the populous centers of London, passed by the clubs, whose windows were filled with curious men, through a mass of lookers-on, but not one offensive word was uttered, and oftentimes the men uncovered their heads as we came along. It was a most wonderful and impressive demonstration."

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"We have always thought of President Roosevelt, lovable man as he certainly is, as being more interested in the activity of the birth rate than in any other subject connected with women. He is like our Bishops of London, who get tremendously excited over that, never bothering apparently about the 120,000 children who need to be kept alive by proper food and care before their number is added to."

"For a man in the position of the President to say even a word in favor of a movement of this kind I would consider a great victory. Think of King Edward admitting that he believed in it—but of course he could not say such a thing, he simply could not. He is a King. Nor could Queen Alexandra. A Queen must not have opinions."

"One of the greatest blots on Queen Victoria's political record was the absolute lack of any interest shown in the emancipation of women; it is an omission which the thoughtful woman who appreciates the opportunity she had to make her name honored and revered by the women of every nation and in every age cannot understand."

"Instead she created a type known as the early Victorian woman, which is the laughing stock of intelligent England to-day. To be called Early Victorian is to be ridiculed in the highest degree. The E. V. stands for a harmless nonentity, prim, precise, 'a cross between an angel and an idiot.' It is a type which dominated art and literature and to which the son who has accepted his religious and his political opinions from his father still clings."

Mrs. Snowden ends the interview by explaining the difference in the terms suffragette and suffragist as used in England to-day.

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THE SIDEWALK PLATFORM.

ing for that cause in Great Britain and it is my profound conviction that I have only seen the beginning of trouble. I mean—and Mrs. Snowden's blue eyes open wider in appreciation of the future—"I mean that some women have got to be killed."

The quiet, tense tones carry weight, and listening to them one forgets the superficial, humorous features of the campaign.

"If it is true as reported that a man like Mr. Lloyd-George, a Cabinet Minister, advised the people to treat the woman suffragists ruthlessly, to throw them out of any meeting if necessary," she goes on, "what does that mean but an invitation to mob rule; and what has been the history of mob rule?"

"There has never been any enfranchisement granted in England without loss of life. Why should we expect this tremendous change to be inaugurated by the sending of a few women to jail or by carrying them out in the arms of policemen from some political gathering?"

"Not, I am convinced."

During the enfranchisement riots of 1832, when the middle classes were trying to obtain the suffrage, and in 1867 when the workingmen were trying to obtain the same privilege the railings of Hyde Park were torn down, once the Bishop of London was dragged from his carriage and there were some lives sacrificed—a sacrifice that was perhaps necessary."

MEN SHE CAN'T REASON WITH

MAUD MALONE'S STREET CAMPAIGN FOR SUFFRAGE.

For a Year She Has Been Holding Meetings All Over Town—Answers Made by the Man in the Street to Her Arguments—The East Side's Weakness.

"They hurl the Bible at me," said Maud Malone. "If you think the Bible isn't read to-day you would be astonished to see how it is quoted to prove that women shouldn't vote."

Maud Malone held her first outdoor meeting for woman suffrage in New York one year ago on New Year's Day. It was before any direct English influence had reached the city and before the American suffragettes were organized.

Steadily throughout the year Miss Malone and her Harlem Equal Rights League, of which she has been president for several years, have continued their street meetings. Last winter she held them in Madison Square. All summer they were held on the lower East Side, in Grand, Clinton, Rutgers, Jefferson and the neighboring streets. All this fall she has held them in Harlem at or near the corner of 125th street and Seventh avenue.

"These meetings have been held on four or five nights a week, and sometimes two meetings have been held in an evening. Miss Malone has spoken at every one of them. Thus she has sampled the Manhattan street audience pretty well and has come into contact with the raw anti-suffragism of the man in the street."

"A man who goes to a suffragist meeting in a hall," said she, "is either a suffragist already or he goes to please some woman who is a suffragist. It is in the street meetings that you get the opinions of undiluted masculinity."

"I was appalled when they began to quote the Bible at me, for I didn't suppose there was anybody who took those things literally any more. The Jews of the lower East Side are adepts at Bible quotation. I'm no match for them. So I just try to turn it off some way."

"The first time a man ever tried to floor me with the Bible I didn't know what he was after. Said he:

"Don't you know it's ordained that woman should be in subjection to man?"

"No," said I. "I didn't." I really couldn't think what he meant.

"Don't you know that Eve was made